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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 016866-001507

On 8-4-04

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Linda Shaffer

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

T. William Hutchens *et al.*

Application No.: 10/728,442

Filed: December 5, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
DESORPTION AND IONIZATION OF  
ANALYTES

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 9375

Examiner:

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1743

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Response to Notice to File Corrected Application Papers mailed by Applicants on March 1, 2004 and the Decision on Petition mailed on May 25, 2004, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 3 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.